and establishment of planning and management units in State Headquarters for implementation of the scheme.

The Planning Commission has given "in principle" clearance to this Ministry for negotiating with the World Bank through the Department of Economic Affairs, Ministry of Finance.

Investment of P.F. in mutual funds

1807. SHRI JIBON ROY: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have decided to invest P.F. accumulations in mutual funds; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (SHRI SAHIB SINGH VERMA): (a) and (b) The Government has notified the investment pattern under Para 52 of Employees' Provident Fund Scheme, 1952, on 09.07.2003 according to which incremental accretions belonging to Provident Fund can be invested in units of such mutual funds which have been set up as dedicated funds for investment in Government securities and which have been approved by the Securities and Exchange Board of India.

Unused E.P.F.

†1808. SHRI KAPIL SIBAL:
SHRI RAM JETHMALANI:

Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a huge amount of Employees' Provident Fund is lying unused due to being disputed;

(b) if so, the amount lying unused due to being disputed till September, 2003;

(c) the total deposit in the said fund till September, 2003; and

(d) the average annual amount deposited in the fund during the last three years?

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.